

LAST week's 1-0 triumph over Walton and Hersham seems to have done Wycombe Wanderers a power of good. For it was that same determination and total effort that earned them their seventh double of the season and two Isthmian League points against Kingstonian at Loakes Park on Saturday.

The secret of the Blues' success was their complete domination in midfield. By far the most difficult area of the pitch to work in, due to a hailstorm just before the kick off, it was here that Wycombe's sheer graft ensured victory.

Outstanding in that department was Rob Williams. Since moving from the back four into midfield, Williams has settled in well and although somewhat over-zealous at times, his effort and ball winning ability certainly swung the game in Wanderers' favour.

Teaming up for the first time this season as centre-backs, John Delaney and Dave Bullock looked an extremely capable combination. Both players are strong in the air, but Bullock's greater mobility will make it extremely difficult for opposing teams to break through.

The attack too, looked much sharper than of late with Tony Amos always threatening. Tony Horsemán banged home a fine goal before going off at half-time with a twisted ankle.

It was an unhappy return to Loakes Park for former Wanderers Ted Powell and Trevor Waughman. Powell, who has taken Kingstonian to their

18th minute when John Overton, the former Hayes 'keeper, palmed aside Amos' fine effort.

Wycombe's play improved as they began to spray the ball about, using Derek Gamblin constantly on the overlap. This policy looked a far better proposition than anything through the middle and after 29 minutes, it brought Wycombe's first goal.

By STUART EARP; Wycombe Wanderers 2, Kingstonian 0

best season for nine years, showed many of his old touches but Waughman was never allowed any scope by the Wycombe defence, thereby blotting out the Kings' major hope upfront.

Red-haired centre-back Mick Preston did little to press his claims for John Delaney's England place in front of manager Charles Hughes. Although commanding in the air, his distribution was not of the same standard.

Just when referee Salmon was about to blow for the start of the game, a freak hail storm forced the teams off the pitch for five minutes.

It took them some time to adapt to the sticky conditions and early on, both sides persisted in playing the ball too short. With the referee pulling up players regularly for minor offences the match didn't come to life until the

Gathering the ball inside the Kingstonian half, Paul Birdseye took a couple of strides down the wing before sending over a beautifully timed cross. Brian Langfield raced in to challenge Overton on the jump and the ball ran loose to Horsemán, who rifled it home from 15 yards.

It was the signal for a long period of Wycombe pressure. Amos twice went close, with Overton diving at his feet on one occasion. Again, however, the spontaneity was often broken by the referee's whistle.

About the only time the visitors threatened in the first half was five seconds before the interval when John Maskell almost let Nick Glover's header slip from his grasp on the line.

Alan Gane came on for the injured Horsemán at half-time and promptly strengthened midfield, with John Hutchinson moving up into a roving role in attack. Hutch

was soon in on the action after Birdseye had surged between two defenders but he couldn't quite get hold of his shot under heavy pressure.

John Doyle, plagued by ankle trouble this season, gave way to the more attacking Alan Pentecost after 55 minutes but he could make little impression as Wycombe's grip in midfield grew

tighter and tighter.

Williams was everywhere, sliding into tackles by the dozen and winning a tremendous amount of ball for his side. Larry Pritchard too was always buzzing and it was his cross-field passes that set the attack in motion so often.

In the 61st minute Wycombe's pressure was rewarded with a second goal. Amos took a long throw-in from the top side which found its way to Langfield, who won the tussle with Ted Powell and sent the ball slowly towards the net. Covering full-back Kelvin Reeve, in a last gasp bid to clear, could only push the ball into his own net.

It was a deserved goal for Wycombe who strove to produce attractive football in poor conditions.

Only the width of a post stopped Delaney from making it 3-0 in the 68th minute when he

outjumped Preston, obviously selected by Powell to mark the big Wycombe centre-half.

Then Amos, having rounded Preston, lofted the ball over from an acute angle as Wycombe pressed again. About the only blemish on their performance was the inaccuracy in shooting which robbed them of further goals.

Kingstonian, who had struggled to string any constructive raids together, came back for the final 15 minutes and played their best football of the game. But with Waughman fading they lacked penetration.

Nevertheless, it took a superb save from Maskell to halt Glover when Pentecost crossed from the flank. Glover powered in a low header but the 'keeper dived full length to push the ball away.

The action wasn't centred on Wycombe's net for long, however, as the home side streamed back through Hutchinson who beat two defenders before crossing low and hard. Southam, only inches off the Kings' goal-line, just controlled the ball to stop it entering the net.

WYCOMBE: J. Maskell; P. Birdseye, D. Bullock, J. Delaney, D. Gamblin; J. Hutchinson, R. Williams, L. Pritchard; B. Langfield, A. Amos, A. Horsemán (sub.; A. Gane, 45 mins).

KINGSTONIAN: J. Overton; K. Reeve, E. Powell, M. Preston, K. Grose; M. Roach, J. Doyle (sub.; A. Pentecost, 55 mins.), B. Southam; N. Glover, D. Richardson, T. Waughman.

Referee: K. G. Salmon (Barnet).
Half-time: 1-0. Goalscorers: Horsemán (29), Reeve (o.g. 61).

Attendance: 1,086.